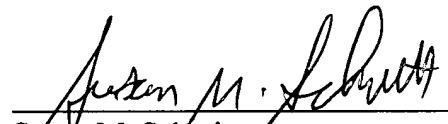


wherein after crimping said stent on said balloon, said balloon is caused to at least partially surround at least a portion of said at least one stent, thereby securing said at least one stent to said balloon for intraluminal delivery.

Conclusion:

Applicants submit that the newly added claim is supported by the specification. Applicants believe that the claims are in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,



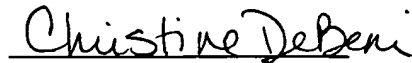
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8A)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in the envelope addressed to: Box Non-Fee Amendment, Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date: 10/15, 1999



Christine DeBeni